

**RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 2, 2001
6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kit Smith, Chair; L. Gregory Pearce, Jr., Vice-Chair; Joan B. Brady, Susan Brill; Paul Livingston; Joseph McEachern; J.D. "Buddy" Meetze; Anthony G. Mizzell; Bernice G. Scott; Thelma M. Tillis; James Tuten

OTHERS PRESENT: Milton Pope, Tony McDonald, Pam Davis, Stephany Snowden, Amelia Linder, Darren Gore, Ralph Pearson, Mullen Taylor, Larry Smith, Cary McSwain, Michielle Cannon-Finch, Monique Walters

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by the Honorable Jim Tuten.

ELECTION OF CHAIR

Ms. Smith opened the floor for nominations.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to nominate Kit Smith for Chair.

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Meetze, to close the nominations. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The vote in favor of Kit Smith as Chair was unanimous.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to suspend the rules and offer a Co-Vice Chair for 2001.

Ms. Smith stated this would take unanimous consent of Council.

The vote was in favor. Mr. Meetze opposed. The motion failed.

Mr. Brill moved, seconded by Mr. Tuten, to nominate Mr. Pearce for Vice-Chair.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to nominate Mr. McEachern for Vice-Chair.

The vote was as follows:

<u>Mr. Pearce</u>	<u>Mr. McEachern</u>
Brady	Livingston
Mizzell	McEachern
Meetze	Scott
Pearce	Tillis
Smith	
Brill	
Tuten	

Mr. Pearce was nominated as Vice-Chair.

SELECTION OF SEATS

Ms. Smith stated this has been done by order of seniority. All Council members chose to remain where they were seated. Ms. Brady took the seat Mr. Morris had.

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Larry Smith, County Attorney, stated the resolution vacating Richland County's property interest in Robertson Creek Road is a one-time reading and should not be under items for Second Reading. Ms. Smith stated it would be numbered as item-3 and renumber everything below it.

Ms. Michelle Cannon-Finch, Clerk of Council, stated Citizen's Input need to be added to the agenda. Ms. Smith stated Citizen's Input would follow after Adoption of the Agenda.

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Tuten, to adopt the agenda as amended. The vote in favor was unanimous.

CITIZEN'S INPUT

Ms. Evelyn Bush spoke of concerns of items on the agenda for Third Reading and Public Hearings held at the same time.

REPORT OF COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

Mr. Smith stated the McClanahan vs. Richland County issue needed to be discussed in Executive Session.

Ms. Smith suggested hearing this item after Citizen's Input at the end of the agenda.

REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Detention Advisory Committee Meeting

Mr. McSwain stated the committee meeting scheduled for January 8th at 10:00 has been rescheduled for January 22nd because the County staff will be doing research on security systems in Virginia and would be out of town.

OPENING/CLOSING OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

CASA: Full-time grant position for staff attorney [Third Reading/Consent Item]

Ms. Smith opened the floor for a public hearing. She stated no one signed up to speak and closed the public hearing.

Participation in Southeast high speed rail study [Third Reading/Consent Item]

Ms. Smith opened the floor for a public hearing. She stated no one signed up to speak and closed the public hearing.

Budget Amendment: Township renovations [Third Reading/Consent Item]

Ms. Smith opened the floor for a public hearing. She stated no one signed up to speak and closed the public hearing.

Ordinance authorizing an expenditure for the USC Arena [Third Reading/Consent Item]

Ms. Smith opened the floor for a public hearing. She stated no one signed up to speak and closed the public hearing.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Smith questioned if any Council member wished for an item to come off of the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Smith stated she wanted a discussion on Township Renovations; therefore, it was removed from the Consent Agenda.

The following items are Consent Items:

- **Legal: Paid time off for employees to vote in General Election [Third Reading]** – Approval given to an ordinance amendment that adds general election day as a day on which County employees are granted a two-hour paid leave of absence to vote.
- **CASA: full-time grant position for staff attorney [Third Reading]** – Approval of an ordinance amending the FY 00/01 budget to add one full-time grant position for a staff attorney.
- **Participation in Southeast high speed rail study [Third Reading]** – Approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$7,500 to help fund an economic impact study to convince Congress and Amtrak to consider the Southeast as the next area for high speed rail travel.
- **Ordinance authorizing an expenditure for the USC Arena [Third Reading]** – Approval of transfer of \$2,500,000 in tourism development fees from the County to the University of South Carolina to assist with construction.
- **Detention Center: Privatization of Medical Services [Second Reading]** – Approval to a budget amendment to add \$308,689.00 from undesignated, unreserved funds to the Detention Center's medical budget to cover the unbudgeted amount of this contract with Prison Health Services.
- **Resolution vacating Richland County's property interest in Robertson Creek Road** – Approved Resolution relinquishing the County's interest, and removing the road from the County maintenance system.

The vote in favor of adopting the Consent Agenda was unanimous.

THIRD READING

Budget Amendment: Township renovations

Ms. Smith stated she removed this item from the Consent agenda because she thought there was an agreement to have a funding strategy in place before third reading and requested the status of this.

Mr. McSwain stated this information is not ready at this time and requested taking this item up at the next Council meeting. He stated it is not ready because of the holidays and the priority of getting the audit completed.

Ms. Brill moved, seconded by Mr. Tuten, to defer this item to the January 16th Council Meeting in order for a funding strategy to be completed. The vote in favor was unanimous.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE [deferred from 12/19/00 Council meeting]

Central Carolina Economic Development Alliance: Old/New Agreements

Mr. McSwain stated they are still in the process of finalizing the draft and working it through with the Economic Development Alliance staff. He stated there is a meeting on January 3rd to try and finalize the agreement.

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Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to defer to the January 16th meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

REPORT OF RULES AND APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE

Appointments to the Planning Commission-1

Mr. Livingston stated there is one appointment to be made to this commission that was deferred from the December 19th meeting. He stated three applications were received and requested for the Chair to carry the motion on the three applicants.

The vote was as follows:

<u>Ronald A. Caughman</u>	<u>Eugene C. Green</u>	<u>Larry M. McBride</u>
0	Brady	Livingston
	Meetze	Mizzell
	Pearce	Smith
	Brill	McEachern
	Tuten	Scott
		Tillis

Mr. Larry M. McBride was elected.

CITIZEN'S INPUT

Ms. Evelyn Bush spoke of concerns of advertising in the State Paper.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Meetze moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to go into Executive Session to discuss a legal briefing on the McClanahan lawsuit. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Council went into Executive Session at approximately 6:30 and came out at approximately 6:40 p.m.

It was moved and seconded to come out of Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Legal Briefing: McClanahan vs. Richland County

Ms. Smith stated this item was received as information.

MOTION PERIOD/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Meeting

Ms. Brill reminded Council of a Northeast community meeting on January 4th at 7:00 p.m. at the Rehoboth Northeast Baptist Church for the purpose of discussing the Kahn Development.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.

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Kit Smith, Chair

L. Gregory Pearce, Jr., Vice-Chair

Joan B. Brady

Susan Brill

Paul Livingston

Joseph McEachern

J.D. "Buddy" Meetze

Anthony G. Mizzell

Bernice G. Scott

Thelma M. Tillis

James Tuten

The minutes were transcribed by Marsheika G. Martin